# Executive Proclamation
## State of South Dakota
## Office of the Governor

***Whereas***, South Dakota is known for its strong family traditions—family farms, family businesses, and family vacations; and,

***Whereas***, It is fitting and proper for families to come together to share their experiences, exchange their life's stories and dreams, build life-long relationships, and discover their roots; and,

***Whereas***, Alfred Aaker and Clara Paulson were both born in Moody County, South Dakota, to descendents of Norwegian emigrants; and,

***Whereas***, Alfred and Clara were married on December 7, 1914, and to that union five children were born: Virgil, Vera, Walter, Mavis, and Marlys, and the couple farmed in southeast Moody County; and,

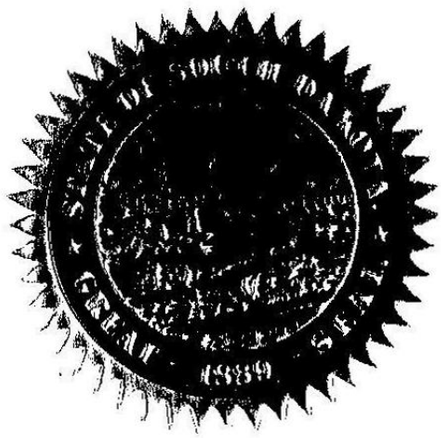
***Whereas***, In 1994, the descendants of Alfred and Clara began holding family reunions every 3 years with one of their children hosting the gathering of 60-70 relatives in order to reminisce, to meet the newest family members, to enjoy Norwegian traditions, and to celebrate as proud Americans; and,

***Whereas***, The Aaker family will gather at the High Country Ranch north of Hill City, South Dakota, on August 9, 2009, to recognize and honor the rich legacy left by their ancestors:

***Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 9, 2009, as

## AAKER FAMILY REUNION DAY

in South Dakota.



***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State